

DAVIS PARK ASSOCIATION  
FALL MEETING  
September 28, 2012

CALL TO ORDER AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A quorum being present, the President called to order at 11:05 a.m.

Upon motion duly mad and seconded, the minutes of the Spring Meeting of Members were approved.

A financial report was distributed to the membership.

DPA-Fall2012MeetingANNOUNCEMENTS

The membership was informed of the DPA sponsored Friday night boats, leaving Patchogue at 8:30 p.m. on Fridays until the end of October.

The covered dish cocktail party will be held on Saturday, October 6, from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Tickets are available from June, Mary and JoAnne Spencer.

New owners were introduced and welcomed.

Homeowners were reminded of the importance of registering to vote from their Davis Park address.

## MEMBERSHIP

Dues have been received from approximately 80% of the homeowners.

## ELECTION OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS

The slate of candidates running this year was read. The slate being unopposed, upon motion duly made and seconded, the following individuals nominated to serve as directors and officers for a two-year term were approved by acclamation: John Lund (Vice President), Jayne Robinson (Secretary), Jim Behrendt, Lisa Daglian, Joe Miccio, Ray Pynn and Jim Wright.

The members thanked the directors for their service.

## TOWN OF BROOKHAVEN

Councilman and homeowner Tim Mazzei updated the members on Town of Brookhaven activities and responded to questions from the members regarding the following: parking (2 year permits will be available at Sandspit next year); derelict Lane house in Ocean Ridge (report on Town efforts); bond for nourishment project (DPA hired Len Bernard, former head of finance for the Town; on agenda for discussion today); can the community withdraw from the school district (no; must be in a school district per state law; any

other district would be much more expensive); rubbish removal from Town property (promise to look into).

### FINS

Superintendent Chris Soller addressed the meeting. FINS is trying hard to make the FEMA repair project a reality, working cooperatively with the communities. Chris discussed overall coastline management, including inlets, beach and bay-side erosion, shoreline and storm protection, and responded to questions from the members regarding the following: role of Army Corps of Engineers (responsible for drafting overall master plan, in coordination with FINS and NY State; involved in both short term projects such as FEMA repair, and the long term FIMP project); water well project in Watch Hill (will get info to Mary); website re beach projects (check FIA site re FIMP; DPA and FIA will get info out when there is a draft plan); deer control (plan under development; info will be posted on FINS website); tick-borne disease (important to get treated promptly; Deet helps with ticks).

## FIA

FIA President Suzy Goldhirsch, now in her second year, addressed the meeting. She and Chris Soller have been attending the various homeowner meetings. They work closely together and FIA has a very positive relationship with the National Park Service. The trend has been toward more and better cooperation with the communities and Chris Soller's appointment as Superintendent has been a very positive development as he is an advocate for the communities in the corridors of power. Suzy commended FIA EVP Bob Spencer as a pioneer of the FIA, and commended the DPA leadership. She noted that the DPA was the main conduit to the Town of Brookhaven. The FIA is revamping its website and newsletter, working on nourishment efforts and wildlife control. Suzy urged members to vote from Davis Park and to join the FIA.

## DPFD

Chief Pete Hutchins addressed the meeting and thanked the members for their continued support of the Fire Department. The Chief, whose term is up this year, reported that there were no major incidents during the past year; the Department has very good mutual aid relationships, and has acquired 4 new members.

Pete will now serve as a Commissioner of the Fire District, and commended outgoing Commissioner George Kulman for his long and extremely valuable service. The members expressed their thanks to George.

#### FIRE DISTRICT

Commissioner Jon Brown addressed the meeting and introduced present and past Commissioners: Mary Parker, Jim Smith, Garrett Anger, Pete Hutchins and George Kulman. The #7 truck is off the beach for repairs which should be covered by insurance. We have an aging fleet (the #7 truck is 12 years old). The Fire District's preliminary budget projects an increase of 1.8%. All budgets are available on the District's website. In response to a comment from the floor, Jon promised to look into lighting the flag at night.

#### NOURISHMENT PROJECT

At the outset of the discussion, Suzy Goldhirsch reminded the members of the crucial importance of our ECD and noted that the right to maintain our shoreline and pay for it ourselves through our ECD is under attack. We have to manage our own shoreline and the communities should not only be willing but

happy to step in and spend our own money to do so. The communities have to be leaders in this effort or we will lose our rights to protect our homes and beach.

The President reported that the DPA hired an accountant, the former Town Finance chief, to help obtain information and analyze the costs of the nourishment project. An information packet was circulated prior to the meeting. We are on track financially and within our budget. Our projections call for a 54% reduction in ECD taxes. As an example, Mary stated that her ECD taxes would fall to about \$800 from \$1800. We have very significant balances left to help pay off the bond used to finance the project. Prior to the project, we had a \$243,000 reserve, which we hope to replenish for ongoing projects and emergencies. Costs have increased dramatically over the years. For example, a beach scrape now cost \$150,000; a single round of fencing cost over \$20,000. We are also looking to fund the beginning phases of the FEMA repair project with an estimated cost of \$320,000. Basic erosion control costs run approximately \$65,000 a year for monitoring, fencing and grass planting. Bond costs are projected at \$50,000. Accordingly, we propose to tax at \$275,000 next year, compared with \$600,000 in the project years, which amounts to a 54% reduction in ECD taxes. This plan will

also enable us to pay our 12.5% of the Davis Park \$3.3 million share of the \$25 million FEMA project.

Questions and comments from the members ensued, as follows:  
A word of thanks for the well-explained information and the DPA's efforts for the benefit of the community; if we pay 12.5%, where does the 87.5% balance come from (FEMA); who decides about the project (there would be an announced public process before any approvals are given by the Town); when would the FEMA project occur (2014 seems the earliest likely timeframe); what is the percentage reduction in ECD taxes (54%, all else being equal for any particular homeowner).

#### OLD/NEW BUSINESS

Members made the following comments: Great job by Ray Pynn on the new signage but many signs have been vandalized and one or two break-ins have been reported.

The Tuesday garbage pick-up is not working and we should renegotiate the contract as soon as possible. Also, the DPA cans seem to be left in the middle of the Burma Road.

Fogging for mosquitoes should start earlier in the year.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 12:15 p.m.

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Secretary